

Subject: Hot Issues for next week
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Yakima -

Our time for accepting comments on the Yakima report ended on November 30th, although we are still expecting and accepting comments from NRCS, the State Department of Ecology and others. Staff is reviewing the material and will be proposing how we address the comments. This recommendation will go up through Office Directors to the RA.

We have secured funding, hired a contractor and will begin drilling monitoring wells next Monday in Yakima to address some of the identified limitations of the study. Somewhere between 9 and 13 wells will be drilled, upgradient and downgradient of suspected sources. Assuming the drilling goes as planned, data should be available by the end of the year. We are planning a press availability for the drilling work on Tuesday, December 11th.

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